GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:411
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2005
CONDITION OF PHCs
Patil Shri Prakash V.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the condition of the Primary Health Centres/(PHCs) all over the country is poor ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken /proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the working of PHCs?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): Government is aware of the gaps in health care facilities, in terms of physical infrastructure and manpower, in the country. While public health is primarily a State subject in terms of implementation and management, the Central Government is providing technical and financial assistance in all critical areas which affect the programme. States are regularly being advised to take appropriate steps, to address the unmet needs on priority.

(c) Government has envisaged/taken up a number of interventions to improve/strengthen the Primary Health Services in the country.

Under the Reproductive & Child Health Programme, following steps are being taken:

- Major Civil Works for repair/ construction of OT/Labour Room
- Provision of equipments/medicine for emergency obstetric care at first referral units
- Financial assistance for contract appointments/hiring of Anesthetists/ Gynaecologists/ Safe Motherhood consultants/ Staff Nurses/Lab. Technician, Additional ANMs etc.
- Skill based in-service training for capacity building of ANMs and other health functionaries.

Strengthening of rural health facilities, including PHCs, is also an important component of the National Rural Health Mission.